

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 MCE-00 EB-08 ACDA-12 OMB-01

AID-05 COME-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7061
INFO CDRUSASAC ALEX VA//DRSAO-ME/SE//
SECDEF WASHDC//ISA/DSAA-TS-A//
DA WASHDC//DALO-SAC//
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY//ECJ4/7//
CNO WASHDC//OP63//OP61
CSAF WASHDC/LGF//
DIA WASHDC//AH4//

S E C R E T BELGRADE 4826

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, YO, US
SUBJ: US-YUGOSLAV MILITARY COOPERATION

1. AMBASSADOR, ACCCOMPANIED BY DEFENSE AND NAVAL ATTACHES, MET ON 26 JUNE WITH LT COLONEL GENERAL JANKO SUSNjar, DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL DIRECTORATE FOR MILITARY SUPPLY AND PROCUREMENT, AT LATTER'S REQUEST. SUSNjar RAISED VARIOUS QUESTIONS CONCERNING DISPOSAL OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY SALES, AND SHIP REPAIR.
END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE COVERED DURING MEETING WITH GENERAL SUSNjar ON 26 JUN:

A. DISPOSAL OF U.S. PROVIDED MILITARY EQUIPMENT. GENERAL SUSNjar POINTED OUT THAT DURING U.S.-GOY MEETINGS LAST YEAR ON DISPOSAL OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, YUGOSLAV SIDE INDICATED ALL
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GRANT-AID MATERIAL WOULD BE DISPOSED OF IN VERY NEAR FUTURE. GOY NOW SEEKS GUIDANCE CONCERNING USG POLICY FOR APPROVAL OF SALES OF M4 AND M5 TRACTORS, M47 TANKS, 105 MM AND 155 MM HOWITZERS, AS WELL AS 20-25 YEAR OLD AMMUNITION FOR HOWITZERS. EQUIPMENT INVOLVED MAY INCLUDE FMS AS WELL AS GRANT-AID. GENERAL SUSNjar DID NOT SPECIFY COUNTRIES TO WHOM SALES WOULD BE MADE, BUT STATED THAT GOY PREPARED TO PROVIDE ANY INFO WE

REQUIRE. WISH NOW IS TO GET GENERAL STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED. GOY WANTS, HE SAID, TO AVOID REPETITION OF EARLIER EQUIPMENT DISPOSAL PROBLEMS WITH USG. REQUEST GUIDANCE ON PROCEDURES GOY MUST FOLLOW IN ORDER TO SELL ABOVE EQUIPMENT TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

B. PRATT-WHITNEY TF30-P-414 JET ENGINE FOR ORAO 2. SUSNJA MENTIONED THAT PRATT AND WHITNEY REPRESENTATIVES HAD MET WITH GEN PASTROVIC TO DISCUSS GOY INTEREST IN ABOVE ENGINE. YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE HAS REQUESTED TECHNICAL DATA IN ORDER TO CONTINUE ENGINE EVALUATION. PRATT AND WHITNEY IS SEEKING USG APPROVAL FOR EXPORT LICENSE, AND WHEN APPROVED, WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO GOY FOR FURTHER YAF REVIEW, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE IN BELGRADE TO ANSWER YUGOSLAV QUESTIONS CONCERNING PERFORMANCE, ETC. IT IS THEN ENVISAGED THAT A YUGOSLAV TEAM WOULD VISIT PRATT FACILITIES IN THE U.S. IN THE EARLY FALL. EMBASSY SUPPORTS GOY REQUEST FOR FURTHER TECHNICAL DATA ON TF30-P-414 ENGINE, AND STRONGLY RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF EXPORT LICENSE FOR DATA.

C. USN SHIP REPAIR AT TIVAT. SUSNJA HANDED AMBASSADOR DRAFT COPY OF SHIP REPAIR CONTRACT. HE ADVISED THAT SHIPYARD CAN ACCEPT USS PRESERVER AFTER 15 JULY 1978, AND STRESSED NEED FOR MEETING IN BELGRADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH USN TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO RESOLVE YUGOSLAV QUESTIONS ON WORK PACKAGE, AND WITH FINANCIAL EXPERTS TO DISCUSS CONTRACTUAL AND PAYMENT

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ASPECTS. (ALUSNA IS ARRANGING EARLY VISIT BY USN REPS FROM NAPLES).

D. COMPOSITE FUELS BASED ON POLYBUTHADIENE. SUSNJA NEXT BROACHED TOPIC OF PRODUCTION OF COMPOSITE FUELS BASED ON POLY-BUTHADIENE. THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THIOKOL COMPANY. THIOKOL IS READY TO PROVIDE MATERIAL, BUT HAS THUS FAR NOT OBTAINED USG PERMISSION. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE, AND HOPEFULLY OBTAIN SYMPATHETIC USG RESPONSE, GOY WILL SEND EMBASSY A LETTER OUTLINING THEIR REQUEST. SUSNJA ADDED THAT THE LETTER WILL STATE THAT MATERIALS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH PRODUCTION OF THIS ITEM WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY FOR YUGOSLAV USE. REQUEST DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS ITEM PENDING EMBASSY RECEIPT OF YUGOSLAV LETTER.

E. SUSNJA NOTED THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE RECEIVED LETTER FROM OLIN INDUSTRIES CONCERNING PRODUCTION OF BALL PROPELLANT POWDER, HAVE RESOLVED ALL QUESTIONS, AND NOW AWAIT RECEIPT OF USG PERMISSION. HE SOLICITED EMBASSY HELP IN EXPEDITING USG APPROVAL. PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE IS ANY PROBLEM WITH THIS REQUEST AND STATUS OF EXPORT LICENSE.

3. GEN SUSNAR, AS HE DID DURING GEN JONE'S VISIT MENTIONED ONCE AGAIN THE POTENTIAL DAMAGING IMPACT OF PUBLICITY CONCERNING US-YUGOSLAV ARMS SALES. HE CITED THE WASH POST ARTICLE BY DODER, WHICH APPEARED DURING THE TITO VISIT, AS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO SABOTAGE US-YUGOSLAV MILITARY COOPERATION. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES PROVIDE MILITARY EQUIPMENT WITHOUT FANFARE.

AMBASSADOR AGREED THAT PUBLICITY WAS NOT HELPFUL, BUT THAT THERE WAS LITTLE USG COULD DO ABOUT IT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUERY, SUSNAR NOTED THAT FOLLOWING VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA BY SECDEF, MILITARY RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND YUGOSLAVIA HAVE DEFINITELY IMPROVED. THEN, IN A SIGNIFICANT
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CONCESSION AS THE MEETING ENDED, HE AUTHORIZED U.S. MILITARY ATTACHES TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH HIS OFFICE ON THE TOPICS DISCUSSED ABOVE, THUS CIRCUMVENTING THE CUMBERSOME NORMAL PROCEDURE WHEREBY ALL SUCH MATTERS MUST BE PROCESSED THROUGH FOREIGN LIASION SECTION.

5. COMMENT: THIS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS AMONG OTHER THINGS THE FACT THAT YUGOSLAVS SEEM WILLING TO SOLICIT OUR GUIDANCE WHEN UNSURE HOW TO PROCEED. THEY ARE LIKELY TO GAIN CONFIDENCE IN DEALING WITH US PROPORTIONAL TO THE EXTENT AND TIMELINESS OF OUR RESPONSES. THEREFORE, EMBASSY SOLICITS DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT IN OBTAINING PROMPTLY THE INFORMATION REQUESTED. WE ALSO WISH TO NOTE THAT DISCUSSION OF P&W TF30-P-414 CENTERED AROUND POTENTIAL PURCHASE, NOT POSSIBLE COPRODUCTION. THERE IS AT LEAST SOME REASON TO BELIEVE THAT FINAL GOY DECISION WILL BE BUY, RATHER THAN TO PRESS FOR SOME FORM OF JOINT VENTURE.

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